

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

MRS. L. L. POLK, - PROPRIETOR.
J. L. RAMSEY, - EDITOR.
J. W. DENMARK, - BUSINESS MGR.
Raleigh, N. C.

-SUBSCRIPTION-

Single Subscriber, One Year..... \$ 1.25
Six Months..... .75
Five Subscribers, One Year..... 5.00
Ten..... 10.00
One copy one year free, to the one sending Club
of Ten.

Cash-Invariably in Advance.

Money at our risk, if sent by registered letter or money order. Please don't send stamps. Advertising Rates quoted on application.

To Correspondents:

Write all communications, designed for publication, on one side of the paper only.
We want intelligent correspondents in every county in the State. We want facts of value, results accomplished of value, experiences of value, plainly and briefly told. One solid, demonstrated fact, is worth a thousand theories.

The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

RALEIGH, N. C., MARCH 30, 1897.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

The date on your label tells you when your time is out.



"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows on the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people."—L. L. Polk, July 24, 1890.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The tariff is like Banquo's celebrated ghost. Every time you put it down it gets up again.

In regard to the prosperity market we will say that there is very little "change" noticeable.

At Washington amid the boom of the big tariff guns may be heard the stentorian tones of the political aspirant.

Deadlocks are fashionable in the Kentucky legislature. They have another in the present session over the election of a Senator.

If the Democratic exponents of republicanism on the Tribune and the brilliant agricultural editors and reporters of the News and Observer can't save the State, who can?

Don't be uneasy about ex Gov. A. B. Andrews. He still holds his position as Vice President of the Southern Railway Company, and will not suffer even though his term as Governor has expired.

Alliance principles are marching steadily on. Like the Scriptural illustration of the sowing of seed, some fall in good places and grow while others fall in stony ground, wither and die. But the results are sure to come.

The new board of Agriculture and the officers elected by it, are new men and will have to learn the ropes. But they start out under most encouraging circumstances. They have the undivided and undisputed opposition of the News and Observer and Tribune.

If the noble and cultured agriculturists and horticulturists on the News and Observer announce that frost has killed all the gooseberries and that feathers are rapidly advancing in price in consequence, you may know that hayseed are sprouting in Editor Daniels' whiskers.

The editor of the News and Observer never walked between the plow handles a day in his life, but he raises blue noses when an official in the Agricultural Department, who never walked between the plow handles, is supplanted by one who did plow until he was twenty-four years old, and who has been in close touch with the farmers since. The News and Observer jewel is all paste.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

While the State Agricultural Department has never been regarded as political strictly speaking, yet none but Democrats have ever been installed there. Hence it is but natural for the victors in the political contest to remove the present incumbents and put in their friends.

Commissioner Patterson, Secretary Bruner and Messrs Terrell and Ennis are all clever, capable gentlemen. There are no charges of unfaithfulness or dishonesty against them. They are victims of political defeat, and few officials ever escape like fate. We wish them a pleasant and prosperous future.

NOT STATE REPUDIATION.

It has been charged that the State is trying to repudiate a contract between the State and the Southern Railway Company. This is not true. The State of North Carolina has never made any trade with the Southern Railway Company.

Twenty-odd years ago the North Carolina Railroad was leased to the Richmond & Danville Company for a term of years for so much. This Company was re-organized and is now called the Southern Railway Company. We have had several Governors and changes have been made in the directorate of the North Carolina Railroad. Six years before the original lease expired a Governor, friendly to the Southern, remarkably so, gets the directors and some of the stockholders together and they lease the North Carolina Railroad to the Southern Railway for a term of 99 years at a wonderfully low rental. This was done privately, secretly. Only by the merest chance did it become known before the trade was consummated. It was done at night and might be called "a midnight trade." The people of the State, the representatives of the State, did not authorize this new deal, knew nothing of it. The directors were usurping power never legally vested in them. They were selected to take care of the property of the State, not to dispose of it in a suspicious manner. A ninety nine year lease is equal to a sale. The State proposes to repudiate the unworthy actions of the directors of the North Carolina Railroad. She proposes to insist that her property rights shall be respected.

We will suppose that John Smith owns a large number of cattle. He employs Bill Green and Sam Jones to herd them for a certain length of time. He gives them no authority to rent, lease or sell the cattle during that period without his knowledge. The State must defend her rights in this matter.

LIVING IN GLASS HOUSES.

The editor of the Tribune, who has been a resident of North Carolina but a short while, is very anxious to suppress the natives who have fought her battles and made the State what it is. He fears that the Board of Agriculture has allowed the Populists too much representation in that department. As a matter of fact the Agricultural Department was conceded to the Populists, and we presume that the Republican boards for the other institutions will take care of their friends. At any rate the Tribune need not have any fears about the Republican party. It never gets buncoed when there is patronage to distribute.

The Tribune also has much to say about Governor Russell and his "Democratic and Populist advisers." The editor of the Tribune should be careful about throwing stones in his glass house. Somebody may charge that the Tribune is not a simple pure Republican institution. Mr. Hayward, the editor, has, we are told, held responsible positions on Democratic newspapers. Mr. T. B. Eldridge, the associate editor of that paper, has always been a rank Democrat, and has edited Democratic papers in this State for years. Has he ever changed his politics? One of the city editors of the Tribune, Mr. Martin, is a democrat. He was lately employed on the Wins' on Daily Sentinel. Mr. Hart of the Tribune, is a native of Alabama, and if he was anything but a Democrat before he left that State, it would surprise us. We presume that Mr. Kenyon, formerly of Iowa, has been a lifelong Republican. City editor Briggs, a young man, is a Republican, voted the first time last fall. If we were going to subscribe for a Republican paper we would look around a little before we would close a trade.

COME SOUTH, YOUNG MEN.

Recently State Auditor Ayer received a letter from a farmer in Minnesota. The gentleman wanted to know whether a Northern man can live among Southern people. He also writes that winter has prevailed in Minnesota since last October, snow being on the ground now to the depth of three feet, and that there is a great want of prosperity up there.

Come South, friend. Certainly you can live here if you are a good citizen, and there is room for many more of the same kind. You will find relics of "bourbonism" in many localities, but that is rapidly disappearing. You can belong to any political party you please. We have a dozen or more parties here, and any one of them will receive you with open arms. Three out of four of all the voters in the different parties are standing candidates and the other fourth are standing civil service examinations for any government jobs that may be disposed to hunt a man down. Just get square with the candidates and you will be right in the swim. But we would advise any stranger to leave his politics out of it until he gets located and then vote as he pleases. Same way about religion. If you have a good supply bring it

along. Pretty near all the denominations are represented here. There are more Christians in the South than you will find anywhere in the country; more Sunday observers, more temperance; but there is not an overproduction just yet.

Yes, come South. The man with or without capital stands as much show here as he will elsewhere. Our country is sparsely settled. You can have choice of good land at from four to fifty dollars per acre, and much good land can be secured for less than ten dollars per acre. We have plains, hills and mountains, towns and cities, churches and schools, railroads and factories, water power, coal and timber. Bright sunshine, hot and mild weather nine months in the year and the winter is not severe, as a rule. You can raise anything, almost. A majority of our people are poor, but not poorer than they are elsewhere, everything considering. We have a healthy country; people frequently live to the age of 100 and over; many travel beyond the 80th mile post and to not show any signs of wanting to leave permanently. Come South!

HOUSE VOTE ON THE LEASE BILL.

It will be remembered that the anti-lease bill, which was for the purpose of having the matter decided by the Supreme Court, passed the House. When it came up in the Senate it was defeated by one majority, and a substitute bill passed. This substitute then came up in the House on March 6th. Col. Lusk introduced the original House bill as a substitute for the Senate bill. The vote on the bill was as follows:

Ayes—Abernathy, Alexander, Arrington, Barrow, Brown, Bryan, of Chatham; Carter, Chapman, Cook, Cox, Craven, Crumpler, Currie, Dixon, of Greene; Elliott, Fagan, Ferrell, Foster, Hancock, Hartness, Hauser, Holmes, Johnson, King, Lusk, Lyle, McBryde, Meares, Morton, Nelson, Peace, Pearson, Person, of Wayne; Person, of Wilson; Piott, Pool, Price, Pargason, Rawls, Reynolds, Schulken, Sutton, of Cumberland; Sutton, of New Hanover; Ward, Watts, Wemyss, Whitner, White, of Randolph; Williamson, Wrenn.

Noes—Adams, Aiken, Allen, Areledge, Babbitt, Bailey, Bingham, Blackburn, Brower, Bryan, of Edgecombe; Bryan, of Wilkes; Bunch, Burgess, Candler, Cathey, Chapin, Chilcutt, Clanton, Conley, Creech, Crews, Cunningham, Dancy, Daniels, Dayton, Dewees, Dixon, of Cleveland; Dockery, Duffy, Duncan, Easley, Ferguson, Freeman, Gallop, Green, Grubbs, Hare, Harris, of Halifax; Harris, of Hyde; Howe, James, Jones, Lawhon, Leak, McKenzie, McLelland, McPeeters, McCrory, Murphy, Ormsby, Parker, of Perquimans; Parker, of Wayne; Petree, Pinnix, Roberts, Rountree, Smith, Somers, Spruill, Walters, White, of Alamance; White, of Bertie; Wilson, Yarborough, Young.

The vote in the Senate has already been published in the legislative proceedings, and we trust that our readers have preserved it. Clip out the above vote or file the paper and you will know who were and who were not on the side of the people during the contest in the House.

THE BENEFIT OF BOOK FARMING

A goodly number of people have had much merriment over what they call "book farming." Farmers have joined in the chorus of laughter at scientific experiments, and just while they were so doing they were losing. The Elgin butter makers have succeeded because they have carefully followed the teachings of science on the subject. There is over \$340,000,000 invested in the business in Illinois, more than three times the amount invested in all other enterprises in the state. This success could not have been achieved without science.

WILD RIDE OF A CAT.

Alderman W. J. Smith vouches for the following statement: Several days ago Henry Murphy, living near Reedy River, killed some hogs. The buzzards in the neighborhood, snelling blood, etc., came down in large numbers to investigate.

Mr. Murphy is the owner of a large black cat, who it seemed did not relish seeing these birds coming so close to his home; and set himself to run them off. After making some long jumps in his endeavor to scratch some of the buzzard eyes out he landed on the back of one who immediately flapped his wings and sailed far into space, the cat still hanging on. After flying for several miles the buzzard decided the only way to get rid of the cat was to take him back home. According he started in the direction of the hog killing place and in a few minutes landed safely with his load. The cat got off with more hurry than grace and now gives that spot a wide berth.—Greenville News.

TIMELY WORDS BY A PROMINENT MAN.

The following letter, published in the Richmond State, was written to Colonel A. S. Buford by a distinguished Virginian, who is an ex member of the legislature, a lawyer of acknowledged ability and at present a successful farmer:

"Your favor of the 25th ult., was duly received. I concur with you fully in what you say in regard to the necessity for concerted action on the part of the farmers, if they hope to become beneficiaries of any reforms that are to be made by the incoming administration.

"I am fully persuaded that the constant and steady decline in prices of all agricultural products that has been going on for the past 20 years, until they have reached a point that barely covers the cost of production is the primary and potent cause of the ills that now so sorely afflict the country. We are told that agriculture is the nursing mother of the arts. Experience has demonstrated this truth and teaches us that prosperous agriculture is the groundwork of general prosperity. On it the superstructure is founded, and when from any cause the foundation is undermined or weakened the superstructure totters, if it does not fall.

"The low prices that the farmers realize for all that they have to sell leaves them nothing, after paying the cost of production, with which to buy even the necessities of life, much less the luxuries. Their ability to purchase is greatly impaired, if not destroyed, and the merchant and the manufacturer at once feel the effect of the reflex action in diminished trade and closed factories. It seems to me to be a clear and self evident proposition that when the farmers of the country and those directly dependent upon the farm for a livelihood, numbering a large majority of the population, are compelled as a matter of stern necessity to limit purchases to the minimum and to restrict them to the bare necessities, trade must become stagnated, business of all kinds depressed, and hard times will prevail.

"If this be true, self interest should prompt every other business interest to lend a helping hand in restoring agriculture to a profitable basis. But unhappily this is not so. Many in our principal cities, through their boards of trade and chambers of commerce, seem to have mistaken the effect for the cause, and have been content with their solemn resolve that 'the lack of confidence' is the cause, and 'to take the government out of the banking business' is the remedy for existing ills, without any adequate substitute, liberal and impartial in its features. As long as this one sided theory prevails and we fail to recognize the interdependence of the cities and the agricultural districts for their prosperity the problem will remain unsolved and hard times will continue to prevail. New industries and enterprises will not cure the evil. This would prove to be another foolish experiment of 'carrying coals to Newcastle.' It is not more stores and factories that are needed, but more customers for those already in existence, until their goods, wares and products find ready and profitable consumers. Then, and not till then, will the time come for the establishment of new enterprises.

"The chief cause of depressed prices for the products of the farm is, in my humble judgment, to be found in the constantly appreciating standard of value that has been adopted by the leading commercial nations of the world. When measured by the single standard of gold in its limited supply, the value of every other species of property has materially declined. The products of the farm were the first to feel the pressure, and the farmer has been the largest, as he is the greatest, sufferer therefrom. When, in conjunction with this, we have the monopolies and trusts, formed to drive out competition and to regulate prices to suit their sordid avarice, and a banking system that denies to the farmer the privilege of using his credit whenever necessity may require it, to supply himself with the means of conducting his operations, it is not a difficult matter to understand why prosperity has deserted the farmer. And yet the plain logic of these facts has not been sufficient to induce many of our city friends to aid us in the restoration of bimetalism, but they could, and should, render efficient aid in checking and suppressing monopolies that are destroying the farmers and in reforming the bank and currency system of the government, which is paralyzing and prostrating their best friends and customers. They are easily and indeed already well organized through their boards of trade and chambers of commerce, while the farmers are scattered and without organization.

"It is admitted on all sides that if the farmers are to get any relief they must let their grievances be known and demand their rights. This, all agree, can only be done by concerted

action. How is this to be effected and brought about? I think the plan you propose of holding a representative convention at an early day for the farmers of the country is the most promising and, perhaps, the only feasible one. To do this involves necessarily a great deal of labor and trouble, but I think the results likely to flow from and follow a convention of representative farmers from every state of the Union would amply compensate and would entitle its promoters to the lasting gratitude of every one who has the welfare and prosperity of his country at heart. How are the agricultural people to be aroused and to be made alive to the importance of this initiatory step?

"There are many agencies that may be employed. The national bureau of agriculture, the state boards and press and the executives of the several states; the Farmers' Alliance, which, though weak in this state, is still a power in the west, and possibly the members of congress themselves, at least those representing rural constituencies, might be made available to further the plan. Then, again, the cities, if they can be made to recognize the fact that they will be partakers of any benefit that may accrue therefrom to the farmers, could through their powerful ramified dealings with the agricultural communities awaken a powerful interest in the matter. As I said, it will require large labor and the combination of many separate forces to make the scheme the success that it should be to be effective, but it can be done and should be done, and that quickly.

"The average city man has no more idea of the condition that exists throughout the agricultural districts—what hardships the farmers are compelled to endure because of the lack of the necessary media for the transaction of their business—than the king of Dahomey has of theology. The money is congested in the commercial centers. The low price the farmer receives for his produce will not permit him to take any back to the country, and as a result the rural population is reduced almost to the primitive conditions of barter. The scarcity of money in the country districts is appalling, and unless it is remedied, and that speedily, ruin and bankruptcy will inevitably result to many.

"I earnestly hope that you will spare no effort to press to a successful result the plan you have wisely set on foot, and if I can be of any possible service to you in the matter do not hesitate to command me. Please excuse the length of this. My apology is that out of the fullness of the heart the pen writeth as well as the mouth speaketh."

NO MARQUIS OF QUEENSBURY RULES.

The Wilmington Evening Dispatch says:

There has been no Marquis of Queensbury rules by the opponents of Governor Russell on the North Carolina railroad lease. They have hit below the belt, have used knockout drops, tried to intimidate his backers, and are now offering a bribe for him to step out, but up to date he is still in the ring, and we hope that he will continue to be reckless in defiance of the wishes of the corporation that is so bent upon his destruction. Some of the meanness stooped to by the opposition—one is that he employed a Democrat attorney to assist in drawing up the anti-lease bill, and try to help save the people of North Carolina \$120,000 per annum for themselves and posterity. His Republican opponents, who are mostly paid officials of the corporation he is fighting, have bellowed louder than the bull of Bashan, that he was conniving with the Democrats and opposing his own party; that he would not listen to any advice unless it emanated from Democratic sources; that he was bent only upon the destruction of the party that had lifted him into the gubernatorial chair, and his own selfish aggrandizement; that the main-spring of his opposition to the lease was that he was the champion and exponent of a rival corporation and expected to reap his reward in pelf and plunder by serving it. Another charge was because Senator Butler advocated the annulment of the lease that Governor Russell was ambitious to succeed the Senator as leader of the Populist party; that for years, but in name only, he had been a Populist, and that he was a stretch in the nostrils of all stalwart republicans and pioneer Populists (who sold themselves for thirty pieces of silver). Not satisfied with the foul blows delivered upon him in his own State, they have invoked the aid of Federal courts, and hope to be able to land a knockout blow when Carlisle, the champion of the Southern Railway, makes his appearance in the ring on April 5th. We hope that the Governor will stick to his gloves as long as there is life, for the people of the State will uphold him to the bitter end.

SEE BILKINS, M. A.



The End of Time Not Far Away—Certain Signs Warn us to Look Out For The Great International Conflagration.

B—"Hello! Mr. Editor."

R—"Hello! Major. Anything new to day?"

B—"Nothin' ter ermount ter a row of pins. I'm thinkin' more about the end ov time than I am about current matters. I don't believe things are goin' ter last much longer in this moral vineyard. I wuz tellin' Betsy the other nite that I believe ole mother earth will peg out before long. The Scriptures are bein' fulfilled at a rapid rate. There has bin storms, famines, wars and rumors ov wars, earthquakes an' everything predicted. We are told that in the last days many wonders an' freaks will appear ter puzzle the folks. If we haint got a cargo ov freaks on deck now I'd like ter know why. You kin start a menagerie at every cross roads in the State, a museum ov natural freaks."

R—"What wonders and freaks have appeared in sight lately?"

B—"Lots ov 'em. One iz the Tribune posin' as a Republican paper, the other iz the News and Observer posin' sz a farmers' paper. If the end ov time aint rite here I think time will stop an' hide its face at the site ov the above pair ov freaks. Why bless your life people would travel a thousand miles ter see them two freaks performin'. Gentry haint got nothin' in hiz circus that kin hold a candle ter these two 'organs.' They are a circus, a State Fair and a prize fight awl combined. If Barnum wuz livin' now he'd give a million dollars fer this pair an' git 'em under one tent. They say the world will finally be destroyed by fire. If so I reckon the News an' Observer an' Tribune will have ter go. But there won't be any more treats left then. Gudebye."

CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs From Reform Papers.

If each one would interest themselves in spreading Alliance Principles, what a grand world we would have.—Pa. Alliance Advocate.

If the results of a man's labor has a property value in law, why is not the labor itself entitled to the same recognition.—Breckton Diamond.

A town that pays the preacher and supports the editor is so close to heaven that it's almost in competition with it.—Atlanta Constitution.

Of the three hundred and fifty-six members of congress, if a majority of them were farmers we would have a different kind of legislation.—Cleburne Herald.

Dr. Lyman J. Gage may soon be able to tell us what kind of peculiar disease it is that causes so many healthy-looking business institutions to swell up and burst.—The Popocrat.

It is not so bad with Mr. Cleveland as we first thought it was. He got out in plenty of time to make a crop, even if he will be a little late about sowing his oats.—Ackerman Plaindealer.

God made interest usury; man made 20 per cent interest usury. Which is right? The church is excused from making any reply—it might cause hard feelings.—People's Advocate.

If the republicans do as bad as the democrats have done, and the Lord don't take up for either one, there will be the biggest bear fight in this country in 1900 ever you saw.—Advance Courier.

The esteemed Citizen says Cleveland will be remembered a long time. Of course he will. It will be a long time before those \$262,000,000 gold bearing bonds are paid. Yes, Cleveland will be remembered a long time.—Ocala Banner.

We are a little afraid that the Democratic party is not sincere. The actions of several state legislatures and governors elected in the late campaign in electing goldbug senators, is a little mite suspicious, to say the least.—American Enterprise.

The President says the government is in urgent need of more revenue. All the people agree with him in this declaration and incidentally will observe that the majority of the people are also troubled with a similar affliction.—Brockton Diamond.